

Brethren Evangelist

"I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life."—Jesus

VOLUME XX

ASHLAND, O., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 1898

No. 25

Editorial

A Special Edition

A special edition of the EVANGELIST will be issued the latter part of July or the first week in August. Two thousand extra copies will be printed. It will be the "Winona" edition, and contain the most valuable information as to the park where the conference will meet late in August or the beginning of September, and also the program of that meeting, with numerous interesting articles on the work of the conference, etc. The program of course will be announced earlier, but it will then be reprinted giving the details of the work of the conference. The edition will be embellished with numerous cuts of the park furnished by the authorities of Winona.

Only Seventy-five Cents

To our appeal of last week for new subscribers at 75 cents to the end of the year, we have already received a number of responses, and we repeat the announcement. It seems to us this would be a good time to make a substantial increase to the subscription list of the EVANGELIST. Should not the subscription list grow with the membership of the church? There are congregations where the paper goes into about every home, but there are others, where there is but one paper for every fifteen members, and in some cases but one for every twenty-five. Is this as it ought to be? It certainly is not. Pastors, please look after the interests of our church paper. Do you know of any in your congregation who do not take the paper? If you do not care to canvass them personally, send us their names, and we will mail them sample copies. There are 100 persons in the church who can very easily secure four new subscribers each. This will make us 400 at 75 cents. Shall we have them? Those whose names have recently been dropped from the list may be counted in the 400. Who will be the first to send us a club of four?

How It Happens

We have in our possession at this office eight or ten business communications in which the writers fail to give either their names or addresses. Last Saturday we received an order for Sunday-school supplies, using one of our own order blanks, but giving neither name nor address. That person is quite likely to write us a letter about next

Saturday asking why we have not filled his order. Another sent us \$1.50 for renewal of his EVANGELIST, but the letter is without signature, and is dated March 14, 1898, without name of post office or state. He too will write us a letter censuring the office for negligence. Of late we have made it a rule to save each envelope as the letter is taken out of it, as the post mark may have to be consulted in determining where it is from. These things are not as they ought to be. Not only sign your name, but write it plainly, so that it can be read without guessing at it.

On Time After All

We are glad to announce to our readers that notwithstanding the disappointment in not getting the paper for the *Quarterly* the Sunday-school supplies have gone out on time, and unless unnecessarily delayed reached our schools in time for distribution June 26. Orders are still coming in, all of which are promptly filled as they are received. Four numbers of *Our Little Folks* for third quarter have also been mailed.

Statistics for Conference

As secretary of the National Conference, brother J. L. Gillin, will, within ten days or so, send suitable blanks to all our churches and Sunday-schools with a view of gathering very important statistics. This is a matter of no little importance, and we call attention to it now so that when you receive these blanks, they may not be thrown aside without giving them any attention. Pastors and Sunday-school superintendents should heartily co-operate with Brother Gillin in gathering these statistics. The conference should have a report from every congregation and every Sunday-school in the brotherhood.

A Very Desirable Change

Twenty years ago the weekly religious papers were nearly all big blanket sheets, like the dailies. One after another they reduced to the size of *Harpers Weekly* and *The Scientific American*, or even to half that size. It was inevitable that the most enterprising of them should reach the ultimate form, that of a magazine, and THE INDEPENDENT of New York, the most comprehensive of them all, announces that with its first issue in July it will appear as a weekly magazine of the size of the *Century*. It will have a cover, and usually 84 pages, which will be increased when necessity requires. It proposes with

the altered form to maintain its full quota of able writers, and its various editorial departments, covering religious, political, social and literary matter, to which it owes its prominence. It will not be illustrated, except as its admirable series of maps illustrate the events of current history. The price will at the same time be reduced from three dollars to a uniform rate of two dollars a year and single copies from ten cents to five cents.

The Disunited Churches

In last week's paper, writing on this subject, we said in the first sentence, "It would seem to be more than reasonable," when we meant to say, "It would seem to be *no* more than reasonable," the exact opposite of what we did say.

Begin Early and Keep at It

The Ohio state conference lately held at Pleasant Hill, in a resolution unanimously adopted, makes an earnest appeal to all pastors and Christian workers in the state, to raise for missionary purposes in their respective churches, an amount not less than 25 cents per member. This money is wanted for home work, and for this purpose it is badly needed. Truly brethren, in our state at least the harvest is ripe but the laborers seemingly are few, or we should say the willing workers are few. Let us begin the work at once and keep at it until each church has raised the amount. Already Brother Jacobs of the Homer church has lifted a collection for this purpose, realizing \$7.50, and the Sunday school of that place reports 75 cents as the result of the collection taken June 19. With 25 cents from each member in the state we will be able to accomplish a good work, and along with our missionary zeal will come renewed spiritual prosperity to our churches in the state. No church can prosper that does not actively engage in missionary work of some kind. Note the churches that are alive with the missionary spirit, and you will find them alive to every other good work, they have a pastor and he is being paid regularly. If you have had trouble in raising your preacher's salary get into the missionary business and that trouble will cease. The poor widow in Israel who had flour left for but one small cake which she was preparing to bake that she and her son might eat and die, saved herself by giving what she had to the Lord's prophet, which of course was giving it to the Lord.